UNITED STATES BA SOUTHERN DISTRIC		
In Re Lehman Brothers Hold	ings, Inc.	08-13555(JMP)
	Debtor >	
In Re BNC Mortgage LLC		08-13555(JMP) <u>AFFIRMATION IN OPPOSITION TO MOTION TO LIFT STAY</u>
•	Debtor	<del></del>

ANDREW S. KOWLOWITZ, ESQ., aware of the penalties of perjury, hereby affirms the following:

- 1. I am associated with the law firm of FURMAN KORNFELD & BRENNAN LLP, attorneys for the defendant, Daniel Chan, Esq. ("Attorney Chan"), in a related matter and I am therefore fully familiar with the facts and circumstances stated herein based upon my review of the file maintained by my Firm.
- 2. Attorney Chan is one of the multiple named defendants in an action currently pending in Kings County Supreme Court bearing index number 41418/07, under caption "Howard W. Tomlinson v. Cherry Ann Degannes, David Dodson, Encore Capital Services, Inc., Jeffery Lacy, Avenue Mortgages, Inc., BNC Mortgage, Inc. and Daniel Chan, Esq." ("State Court Action.")
- 3. This Affirmation in Opposition submitted in response to Howard W. Tomlinson's ("Tomlinson") motion seeking an Order lifting the automatic stay on the State Court action by virtue of Section 362(a) of the Bankruptcy Code due to the effling of a voluntary petition seeking

bankruptcy protection under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code by BNC Mortgage, LLC, a subsidiary of Lehman Brothers.

- 4. According to Tomlinson's Second Amended Verified Complaint dated October 1, 2008 ("Plaintiff's Complaint") prior to November 7, 2006, Tomlinson was the sole owner of a two family house located at 694 Crown Street, Brooklyn, New York 11213 ("the Premises"). See Exh. A.
- 5. Sometime in October 2006, Tomlinson allegedly met with David Dodson ("Dodson") of Encore Capital Services, Inc, ("Encore") seeking to refinance his then-existing mortgage. See Exh. A ¶11.
- 6. According to the Tomlinson's Complaint, Dodson apparently held himself out as a bona fide New York mortgage broker. See Exh. A ¶¶ 12-14.
- 7. Dodson allegedly told Tomlinson that he was unable to refinance his home due to his poor credit rating and referred him to Jeffery Lacy ("Lacy") of Avenue Mortgage Inc. ("Avenue Mortgage"). See Exh. A ¶17.
- 8. Lacy allegedly advised Tomlinson that his credit rating was "poor" and that Avenue Mortgage could not assist with refinancing, but recommended that he sell the property to a "straw-man" buyer (Defendant Cherry Ann Degannes) who could obtain a new mortgage and enter into a one-year lease and buy-back agreement with Tomlinson. See Exh. A ¶19-21.
- 9. The Closing at issue in this matter was held on November 7, 2006. Attorney Chan appeared at the closing as the counsel for BNC Mortgage, Inc. (now known as "BNC Mortgage, LLC" and referred to hereinafter as "BNC") and followed BNC's closing instructions. Both Tomlinson, the seller, and Cherry-Ann Degannes ("Degannes"), the purchaser of the premises attended the closing without counsel, and both executed an Acknowledgment which

stated "We have been advised that Daniel Chan, Esq., is acting as the attorney for the Lender in connection with this transaction and does <u>not</u> represent either the Seller or the Purchaser." <u>See</u> Exh. B. [emphasis added]

- 10. According to the Tomlinson's Complaint, during the closing, Tomlinson executed a lease with purchase option. See Exh. A ¶¶28-29.
- 11. On or about October 2, 2007, "A Notice of Default and a Right to Cure" was allegedly served on Degannes due to her alleged failure to make her mortgage loan payments on the premises. See Exh. A ¶30.
- 12. On November 8, 2007, Tomlinson commenced the State Court action, but did not name Attorney Chan as a party. See Exh. C.
- 13. After the Court denied its motion to dismiss, BNC interposed an Answer and a Third-Party Complaint naming Attorney Chan as the Third-Party Defendant. See Exh. D. Attorney Chan appeared and interposed an Answer. See Exh. E.
- 14. Thereafter, Tomlinson served a Second Amended Complaint naming Attorney Chan (with whom he has no attorney-client relationship) as a co-defendant. See Exh. F.
- 15. Pursuant to a Preliminary Conference Order, the deposition of Tomlinson was held on December 22, 2008. Shortly following Tomlinson's deposition and several days before BNC's scheduled deposition BNC filed the instant bankruptcy petition.

## TOMLINSON'S MOTION TO LIFT AUTOMATIC STAY MUST BE DENIED IN ITS ENTIRETY

16. <u>Section 362 of the Bankruptcy Code</u> provides that a bankruptcy petition "operates as a stay, applicable to all entities," of the commencement or continuation of judicial proceedings against the debtor. <u>See</u> Memorandum of Law in Opposition to Motion to Lift Automatic Stay of Pending Action in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Kings County ("Memo of

Law") Point I. Through the "automatic stay" found in section 362(a) of the Bankruptcy Code, Congress has provided essential protections to debtors and creditors by centralizing all disputes.

See Memo of Law Point I. Subsection (d) of section 362, provides as follows, however:

- (d) On request of a party in interest and after notice and a hearing, the court shall grant relief from the stay provided under subsection (a) of this section, such as by terminating, annulling, modifying, or conditioning such stay-
- (1) for cause, including the lack of adequate protection of an interest in property of such party in interest;
- (2) with respect to a stay of an act against property under subsection (a) of this section...
- (3) with respect to a stay of an act against single asset real estate under subsection (a)....

Because the instant application by Tomlinson concerns a stay of a judicial proceeding, only Section 362(d)(1) is applicable.

- 17. The burden of proof on a motion to lift or modify the automatic stay is a shifting one and requires an initial showing of cause by the movant. See Memo of Law Point I.
- 18. If the movant fails to make an initial showing of cause, however, the court should deny relief without requiring any showing from the debtor that it is entitled to continued protection. *Id*.
- 19. The Bankruptcy Courts have recognized twelve factors to consider in determining whether the automatic stay should be lifted to permit litigation to continue to completion in

another tribunal. These are: (1) whether relief would result in a partial or complete resolution of the issues; (2) lack of any connection with or interference with the bankruptcy case; (3) whether the other proceeding involves the debtor as a fiduciary; (4) whether a specialized tribunal with the necessary expertise has been established to hear the cause of action; (5) whether the debtor's insurer has assumed full responsibility for defending it; (6) whether the action primarily involves third parties; (7) whether litigation in another forum would prejudice the interests of other creditors; (8) whether the judgment claim arising from the other action is subject to equitable subordination; (9) whether movant's success in the other proceeding would result in a judicial lien avoidable by the debtor; (10) the interests of judicial economy and the expeditious and economical resolution of litigation; (11) whether the parties are ready for trial in the other proceeding; and (12) impact of the stay on the parties and the balance of harms. See Memo of Law Point I.

- 19. Although these factors provide guidance, as one might anticipate from the unstructured nature of the issue, existing case law indicates that the "decision of whether to lift the stay [is committed] to the discretion of the bankruptcy judge." See Memo of Law Point I.
- 20. In the matter at hand, Tomlinson has not established cause and is not entitled to a lift of the stay.
- 21. Although the movant does not have to establish that every one of the above referenced factors liens in his favor, the movant does have to establish cause, which the movant has not done in the instant matter.
- 22. In the case at hand, if the stay is lifted and matter proceeds to a final resolution in the Supreme Court matter, only partial relief would be afforded to the parties therein.

- 23. Attorney Chan served as the bank attorney on behalf of BNC and followed BNC's closing instructions in settling the underlying transaction.
- 24. In the event liability is assessed against the defendants, Attorney Chan may be entitled to indemnification against BNC.
- 25. The instant proceeding will affect Chan's ability to assert any potential claim for indemnification against BNC and will affect BNC's ability to satisfy any potential judgment. Accordingly, complete relief cannot be afforded to all parties if this matter is litigated in two different forums.
- 26. Moreover, Attorney Chan's ability to assert counterclaims and recover damages is directly tied to the instant bankruptcy matter.
- 27. As such, the mandatory abstention pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1334(c)(2) does not apply because the Supreme Court lawsuit and the claims and potential cross-claims in this matter are directly related to the bankruptcy matter. Moreover, in the interest of judicial economy, the stay on the State Court action should not be lifted as the relief provided in that action will only allow for partial relief.
- 28. Contrary to Tomlinson's assertion that the State Court action is well progressed, Tomlinson has served his Second Verified Complaint less than six (6) months ago, and discovery in this action has barely progressed. See Exh. D.
- 29. To date Tomlinson is the only party to be deposed in this matter. As such, the parties are nowhere near to being "trial ready" in the State Court action, and the parties will not be harmed by a stay in the State Court action. As such, temporary staying this matter would not result in prejudice to Tomlinson or any of the defendants in the State Court action.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons states above Attorney Chan respectfully requests this Court deny Tomlinson's motion to lift the stay in the Supreme Court matter, and grant Attorney Chan such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York March 13, 2009

ANDREW S. KOWLOWITZ, ESC

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SUPREME COURT OF TH	IE STATE OF NEW YORK	_ <b>X</b> .
		<del></del>
Howard W. Tomlinson		
ν.	Plaintiff,	SECOND AMENDED VERIFIED COMPLAINT Index No. 41418/07
Cherry Ann Degannes, I Capital Services, Inc., J Avenue Mortgage, Inc., Daniel Chan, Esq.		
	Defendant(s)	_ <u>X</u>
BNC Mortgage, Inc.		
	Third-Party Plaintiff	
٧.		
Daniel Chan, Esq.		
	Third-Party Defendant	

Plaintiff, Howard W. Tomlinson, by his Attorneys, Cone & Kilbourn, for his Second Amended Verified Complaint, alleges:

(1) That at all material times Plaintiff, Howard W. Tomlinson, is a resident of Kings County, New York with an address at 694 Crown Street, Brooklyn, New York 11213.

X

(2) That at all material times Defendant, Cherry Ann Degannes, is a resident of Nassau County, New York with an address at 9 Lombardi Place, Amityville, New York 11701.

- (3) That upon information and belief at all material times
  Defendant, David Dodson, is the owner/manager/operator of
  Defendant Encore Capital Services, Inc. with an address
  located at 100 Garden City Plaza, Garden City, New York
  11530.
- (4) That at all material times Defendant, Encore Capital Services Inc. is an entity duly organized and operating pursuant to law with a principal place of business located at 100 Garden City Plaza, Garden City, New York 11530.
- (5) That upon information and belief at all material times
  Defendant, Jeffery Lacy, is the owner/manager/operator of
  Defendant, Avenue Mortgage, with an address located at 57
  Manorhaven Blvd., Port Washington, New York 11050.
- (6) That at all material times Defendant, Avenue Mortgage, is an entity duly organized under law with a principal place of business located at 57 Manorhaven Blvd., Port Washington, New York 11050.
- (7) That at all material times Defendant, BNC Mortgage Inc., is/was an entity organized under law with an office located at 510 Broad Hollow Rd. #101, Malville, New York 11747 and with agents, Lehman Brothers Bancorp located at Bldg. 1000 West St., Wilmington De. 19801 and Aurora Loan Services, a Lehman Bros. Company located at 10350 Park Meadows Dr. Littleton, Co. 80124.
- (8) That at all material times Defendant, Daniel Chan, Esq. is an attorney duly admitted to practice with an office located at 104 W. Main St. Patchogue, N.Y. and counsel, Furman Kornfeld & Brennan LLP located at 545 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, N.Y.

### AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL OF THE DEFENDANTS

- (9) That, prior to November 7, 2006 Plaintiff, Howard W.
  Tomlinson ("Tomlinson"), was the sole owner of a two family house located at 694 Crown St. Brooklyn, New York 11213.
- (10) That in October and November, 2006, Tomlinson was desirous of refinancing the then existing mortgage on the Crown St. residence.
- (11) That, in October, 2006, Tomlinson met with Defendant, David Dodson ("Dodson"), of Defendant, Encore Capital Services Inc. ("Encore"), to seek refinancing. During this meeting Tomlinson stressed the urgency of refinancing since he was behind on his mortgage payments.
- (12) That at all material times Dodson represented to Tomlinson

- that he and his company, Encore, were in the business of acting as *bona fide* mortgage brokers in New York.
- (13) That the representations alleged in paragraph "(12)" herein led Tomlinson to believe that Dodson and Encore were licensed real estate brokers.
- (14) Upon information and belief, at all material times, Dodson was not licensed to operate as a mortgage broker in New York.
- (15) Upon information and belief, at all material times, Encore was not licensed to operate as a mortgage broker in New York.
- (16) That, in reliance upon the false representations set forth in paragraph "(12)" herein, Tomlinson asked Dodson and his company, Encore, to obtain refinancing for the Crown St. residence.
- (17) That, in late October or early November, 2006, Dodson told Tomlinson that his credit rating was so "poor" that neither he, Dodson nor Encore could obtain the sought refinancing.
- (18) Dodson then introduced Tomlinson to Defendant, Jeffery Lacy ("Lacy"), who represented to Tomlinson that he, Lacy, was the owner/operator of Defendant, Avenue Mortgage ("Avenue"). Lacy represented that both he and Avenue were licensed to operate as mortgage brokers in New York.
- (19) Lacy told Tomlinson that he was aware of the urgency of the need for refinancing and that Tomlinson's credit rating was allegedly "poor". Lacy then, in the presence of Dodson, proposed that the Crown St. residence be "sold" to a "temporary" buyer/ holder who could obtain refinancing and who would enter into a 1 year lease and buy back agreement with Tomlinson during which time Tomlinson could "improve" his credit rating and thus buy back the residence.
- (20) Both Lacy and Dodson represented to Tomlinson that he had no alternative but to accept the scheme set forth in paragraph "(19)" herein to avoid foreclosure under the then existing mortgage.
- (21) At this same meeting with Lacy and Dodson on November 6, 2006, Tomlinson was introduced, for the first time, to Defendant, Cherry Ann Degannes ("Degannes"), who was described as the person willing to buy, hold and lease, with a purchase option in favor of Tomlinson, the Crown St. residence as described in paragraph "(19)" herein.
- (22) As the result of the various false and untrue representations made in paragraphs "(12)", "(17)", "(18)" and "(19)", Tomlinson decided to accept the scheme and, on November 7, 2006 entered into a "sale", "lease" and "buy back" agreement with Degannes.

- (23) That Dodson, Lacy and Degannes told Tomlinson that he had no need for legal counsel for the "sale", "lease" and "buy back" agreement and that they and/or Defendant, counsel, Daniel Chan ("Chan"), for the refinancing bank, BNC Mortgage Inc. ("BNC") would attend to all the necessary paperwork including the "sale/ lease/ purchase" agreement that should have had nothing to do with Defendant, BNC.
- (24) That, upon information and belief, BNC has been accused of fraud in connection with its work in arranging for and providing mortgage loans and, as a consequence, may now no longer be in business.
- (25) That, upon information and belief, Degannes was paid approximately \$93,000 for her participation in the scheme although Tomlinson had been advised that Degannes would only receive \$25,000. These funds were given to her at the "closing" by Chan which took place on November &, 2006 and were funds obtained from Tomlinson without his knowledge or consent that they were to be paid to Degannes for her participation in the purchase, lease and buy back scheme. It is not yet known whether Degannes shared any of these funds with any of the other Defendants.
- (26) That, on the same day, November 6, 2006, a "closing" was held on Long Island, New York where Tomlinson, Degannes, Dodson, Lacy and Chan were present.
- (27) That, at the aforementioned "closing", various documents which were previously drawn up by Chan were presented to Tomlinson, Degannes and Chan for signature. These documents included, among others, a hand written work sheet, a schedule of settlement charges, a HUD uniform settlement statement, a deed, mortgage documents and a lease with purchase option.
- (28) That the "sale" agreement listed a sales price of \$660,000 despite the fact that the Crown St. premises, on November 6, had a greater market value. All of the Defendants, including, but not limited to BNC through its authorized agent, Chan, acted and expressed themselves in such a way that Tomlinson believed and relied on their actions and representations that the "closing" was being conducted in an entirely legal and bona fide manner. That such actions and representations were deliberately and intentionally made knowing they were false at the time they were made by Degannes, Dodson and Lacy and Chan in the furtherance of the business of Encore, Avenue, Degannes and BNC in order to induce Tomlinson to part with the Crown St. residence and his money.

- (29) That Tomlinson relied upon the false statements, actions and representations, as previously alleged herein, so made by the Defendants and believed them to be true and as a result was induced to enter into the contract of sale and lease with purchase option as set forth herein and therefore lost both money and ownership of the Crown St. residence.
- (30) That on October 2, 2007 a "NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND RIGHT TO CURE" was allegedly sent to Degannes regarding her alleged failure to make payments on her existing mortgage on the Crown St. property. This notice, a copy of which was sent to Degannes at the Crown St. address, indicated that Degannes' monthly payments of \$5,782.83 had not been made for the months of August and September, 2007 and that there existed a "TOTAL DEFAULT" of \$17,568.95. The default letter was sent to Degannes by Chase Home Finance LLC ("Chase") acting as the receiving agent for BNC. Additionally, the letter threatened an acceleration of the entire mortgage balance. Tomlinson advised Lacy of this letter.
- (31) That, eight months of "rent" had been deducted in advance at the "closing" at an excessive monthly amount.
- (32) That Tomlinson was assessed, among other "charges", \$13,990 as a "brokerage" fee by Avenue and/or Encore, "title" charges to "TERRA" or "TBRRA" of \$33,144, "legal" fees to "Nglen & Associates" of \$2,000 and other sundry charges including alleged work done by either Mel Harris, Esq. or Mel and Harris, Esqs. totaling \$9,061.29 and a payment of \$9,975 to one, Eliss Harrison for alleged services unknown. Degannes was paid, according to the "closing" work sheet \$93,000 and an "attorney fee" of \$1,250 to "DC", presumably Defendant, Chan. All of these assessments were set forth on a handwritten "closing sheet" prepared by Chan who issued all the checks at the "closing".
- (33) That despite the fact that Tomlinson was to be paid \$192,000 at the closing, he was only paid \$32,000.
- (34) That Tomlinson's father later complained to Dodson of the non payment of at least \$200,000 to his son and was told that as the result of "mistakes" made at the closing, another check for \$11,000 would be sent. The check was ultimately received and was issued from Chan's IOLA account.
- (35) That the "Lease with Purchase Option" entered into with Degannes included rental charges of \$6,000 per month by Tomlinson, far in excess of what was reasonable, that eight month's rent was deducted, in advance, at the closing and the

- "lease" contained no provision regarding any buy back price or any method to determine the buy back price.
- (36) That all of the various actions and representations as set forth in paragraphs "(12)", "(17)", "(18)", "(19)", "(20)", "(28)" and ("32)" were false and known by the Defendants to be false when made and were made with the intent to defraud Tomlinson of his Crown St. property.
- (37) That the property delivered to Degannes had, at the time, a fair market value of at least \$800,000 and, in addition Tomlinson paid and was defrauded of eight months "rent" totaling \$48,000 and "closing" charges, including "child support" and GMAC Insurance and \$9,000 to "Traders Discount Center LLC. despite the fact Tomlinson has no child and no GMAC insurance and does not know Traders Discount Center, as best as can currently be assessed, of at least \$ 218,196.42 made up of the following:

BNC (escrow interest)	\$ 364.14
"DC" (attorney fee)	\$1,250.00
Avenue (broker fee)	.\$13,990.00
Michelle Paulette (deed preparation)	\$ 200.00
DC Appraisals	
"TERRA" "B's title"	\$17,324.00
"TERRA" "S's title"	\$17,820.00
Karen Mainella (title closer pickup)	\$500.00
*Fremont Investment & Loan	
*Wilshire Credit Corp	
NYC Dept. of Tax & Finance	
NYC Water Board	
Roger Frances (survey)	
Mary Ann Degannes (certified check)	
"Nglen & Assoc." ("legal fees" certified check)	\$2,000.00
Mel & Harris, Esq. (certified check)	
Eliss Harrison	\$9,025.00
Eliss Harrison	\$9,975.00
GMAC Insurance	\$2,800.00
Child support	\$1,600.00
Christopher Hall (three checks) total	
Traders Discount Center LLC	\$9,000.00
<ul> <li>denotes payoffs of existing mortages.</li> </ul>	

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Tomlinson, demands judgment against all Defendants, joint and several, in the amount of \$406,196.42, as best as said amount can now be determined, together with legal fees for this action, interest from November 7, 2006,

costs and disbursements and for such other and further relief that this Court may deem just and proper.

## ALTERNATIVELY, AS AND FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS

- (38) Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs "(1)" through "(37)" as if fully set forth herein.
- (39) That the false and untrue actions and representations, which were unknown to Tomlinson to be false and untrue when they were made and were relied on by Tomlinson, were made by the Defendants and their agents in a careless and negligent manner.
- (40) Because of the carelessness and negligence of the Defendants, their agents and/or employees as alleged in paragraph "(39)" herein, and without any contributory negligence on the part of Plaintiff, Tomlinson, Tomlinson was damaged, as best as can now be determined, in the amount of \$406,196.42.
  - WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Tomlinson, demands judgment against all Defendants, joint and several, in the amount of \$406,196.42, as best as that amount can now be determined, together with legal fees, interest from November 7, 2006, costs and disbursements and for such other and further relief that this Court deems just and proper.

## ALTERNATIVELY, AS AND FOR A THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS

- (41) Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation Contained in paragraphs "(1)" through "(37)" as if fully set forth herein.
- (42) That the false and untrue actions and representations, which were unknown to Tomlinson to be false and untrue when they were made and relied upon by him, were made by the Defendants and their agents in a grossly negligent manner.
- (43) Because of the gross negligence of the Defendants, their Agents and/or their employees as alleged herein, and without contributory negligence on the part of the Plaintiff, Tomlinson, Tomlinson was damaged, as best as can now be determined, in the amount of \$406,196.42.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Tomlinson, demands judgment against all Defendants, joint and several, in the amount of \$406,196.42, as best as now can be determined, together with the legal fees of this action and interest from November 7, 2006, costs and disbursements, and for such other and further relief that this Court may deem just and proper.

## AS AND FOR A FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS

- (44) Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs "(1)" through "(37)" and paragraphs "(42)" and "(43)" as if fully set forth herein.
- (45) That due to the fraudulent and/or grossly negligent acts and omissions and Defendants their obvious dealings with the public and Chan's position as counsel representing BNC cloaked with authority to act on BNC's behalf, Plaintiff is entitled to and asks for exemplary and/or punitive damages as determined by this Court.
  - WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Tomlinson, demands exemplary and punitive be given Plaintiff against all the Defendants, jointly and severally, as this Court deems just and proper.

## AS AND FOR A FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST DEFENDANT, DEGANNES

- (46) Plaintiff repeates and realleges each and every allegation Contained in paragraphs "(1)" through "(37)" and paragraphs "(42)" and "(43)" as if fully set forth herein.
- (47) That Degannes fully and knowingly participated in the fraud perpetrated on Tomlinson which caused said Tomlinson at least \$406,196.42 in damages and the ownership of the Crown St. residence.
- (48) That, as a consequence of the fraud as set forth herein and Degannes participation in the same, Tomlinson was wrongfully and fraudulently induced into entering into the "sale" and "purchase option" of November 6, 2006.
- (49) That the sale and purchase option should be rescinded and cancelled in the interests of justice since it has no valid consideration and was entered into by reason of untrue and fraudulent misrepresentations made by and on Degannes' behalf to induce Tomlinson to enter into the sale and purchase

agreement of November 6, 2006 and which were relied on by Tomlinson who believed them to be true.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Tomlinson, asks that the sale and purchase option agreement of November 6, 2006 be rescinded and/or cancelled, for legal fees, costs and disbursements and such other and further relief that this Court deems just and proper.

Dated: October 1, 2008

### Cone & Kilbourn

John E. Cone Jr. Attorneys for Plaintiff 83 S. Bedford Rd. Mount Kisco, N.Y. 10549

Tel.: 914 481 6249

Hofheimer, Gartlir & Gross **Attorneys for BNC** 530 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. New York, N.Y. 10036

> Furman, Kornfeld & Brennan **Attorneys for Chan** 545 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. 4<sup>th</sup> Fl. New York, N.Y. 10017

To: **Sills Cummis & Gross Attorneys for BNC** One Rockefeller Plaza New York, N.Y. 10112

Lipsky, Bresky & Lowe LLP **Attorneys for Avenue** 585 Stewart Ave. Ste. 440 Garden City, N.Y. 11530

Anthony T. Ballato, Esq. **Attorney for Degannes** 5476 Merrick Rd. Massapequa, N.Y. 11758

## SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF KINGS X

Howard W. Tomlinson

\*\_

Plaintiff,

**VERIFICATION** 

٧.

Index No. 41418/07

Cherry Ann Degannes, David Dodson, Encore Capital Services, Inc., Jeffery Lacy, Avenue Mortgage, Inc., BNC Mortgage Inc. and Chase Home Finance LLC

Defendant(s)

X

BNC MORTGAGE, INC.

Third-Party Plaintiff

v.

DANIEL CHAN, ESQ.

Third-Party Defendant

\_^^

Howard W. Tomlinson, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- 1. I am the Plaintiff herein and as such, am fully familiar with the facts and circumstances of this matter.
- 2. I have read the attached Plaintiff's Verified Second Amended Complaint and know the contents thereof.
- 3. That the Second Amended Complaint is true to my own knowledge and belief except as to matters stated to be alleged on information and belief, and as to those matters I believe them to be true.

HOWARD WOMLINSON

Sworn to before me this 1<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2008

Notary Public

Maureen B. Guido
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 01GU6006221
Qualified in Putnam County
Commission Expires 4/27/2010

Re: Howard Tomlinson (the "Seller") to Cherry-Ann Degannes (the "Purchaser")

BNC Mortgage, Inc. (the "Lender") Loan to Cherry-Ann Degannes

694 Crown Street Brooklyn, NY

Date: October 7, 2006

The undersigned parties hereby acknowledge and agree to the following:

We have been advised that Daniel Chan, Esq., is acting as the attorney for the Lender in connection with this transaction and does not represent either the Seller or Purchaser.

We have chosen to appear pro se at the closing of title. We have asked Mr. Chan to explain the documents we have been asked to execute at the closing with the understanding that he is Lender's counsel.

Howard Tomlinson, Seller

Cherry Ann Degannes, Purchaser

## SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF KINGS X

Howard W. Tomlinson

ν.

Plaintiff,

AMENDED VERIFIED COMPLAINT Index No. 41418/07

Cherry Ann Degannes, David Dodson, Encore Capital Services, Inc., Jeffery Lacy, Avenue Mortgage, Inc., BNC Mortgage Inc. and Chase Home Finance LLC

### Defendant(s)

Plaintiff, Howard W. Tomlinson, by his Attorneys, Cone & Kilbourn, for his Verified Complaint, alleges:

- (1) That at all material times Plaintiff, Howard W. Tomlinson, is a resident of Kings County, New York with an address at 694 Crown Street, Brooklyn, New York 11213.
- (2) That at all material times Defendant, Cherry Ann Degannes, is a resident of Nassau County, New York with an address at 9 Lombardi Place, Amittyville, New York 11701.
- (3) That upon information and belief at all material times
  Defendant, David Dodson, is the owner/manager/operator of
  Defendant Encore Capital Services, Inc. with an address
  located at 100 Garden City Plaza, Garden City, New York
  11530.
- (4) That at all material times Defendant, Encore Capital Services
  Inc. is an entity duly organized and operating pursuant to law
  with a principal place of business located at 100 Garden City
  Plaza, Garden City, New York 11530.
- (5) That upon information and belief at all material times
  Defendant, Jeffery Lacy, is the owner/manager/operator of
  Defendant, Avenue Mortgage, with an address located at 57
  Manorhaven Blvd., Port Washington, New York 11050.

- (6) That at all material times Defendant, Avenue Mortgage, is an entity duly organized under law with a principal place of business located at 57 Manorhaven Blvd., Port Washington, New York 11050.
- (7) That at all material times Defendant, BNC Mortgage Inc., is/was an entity organized under law with an office located at 510 Broad Hollow Rd. #101, Malville, New York 11747 and with agents, Lehman Brothers Bancorp located at Bldg. 1000 West St., Wilmington De. 19801 and Aurora Loan Services, a Lehman Bros. Company located at 10350 Park Meadows Dr. Littleton, Co. 80124.
- (8) That at all material times Defendant, Chase Home Finance LLC, is an entity organized under law with a principal place of business located at P.O. Box 78116 Phoenix, Arizona and an office located at 3820 Nostrand Ave. Brooklyn, New York 11235.

### AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL OF THE DEFENDANTS

- (9) That, prior to November 7, 2006 Plaintiff, Howard W. Tomlinson ("Tomlinson"), was the sole owner of a two family house located at 694 Crown St. Brooklyn, New York 11213.
- (10) That in October and November, 2006, Tomlinson was desirous of refinancing the then existing mortgage on the Crown St. residence.
- (11) That, in October, 2006, Tomlinson met with Defendant, David Dodson ("Dodson"), of Defendant, Encore Capital Services Inc. ("Encore"), to seek refinancing. During this meeting

  Tomlinson stressed the urgency of refinancing since he was behind on his mortgage payments.
- (12) That at all material times Dodson represented to Tomlinson that he and his company, Encore, were in the business of acting as bona fide mortgage brokers in New York.
- (13) That the representations alleged in paragraph "(11)" herein led Tomlinson to believe that Dodson and Encore were licensed real estate brokers.
- (14) Upon information and belief, at all material times, Dodson was not licensed to operate as a mortgage broker in New York.
- (15) Upon information and belief, at all material times, Encore was not licensed to operate as a mortgage broker in New York.
- (16) That, in reliance upon the false representations set forth in para-Graph "(11)" herein, Tomlinson asked Dodson and his

- company, Encore, to obtain refinancing for the Crown St. residence.
- (17) That, in late October or early November, 2006, Dodson told Tomlinson that his credit rating was so "poor" that neither he, Dodson nor Encore could obtain the sought refinancing.
- (18) Dodson then introduced Tomlinson to Defendant, Jeffery Lacy ("Lacy"), who represented to Tomlinson that he, Lacy, was the owner/operator of Defendant, Avenue Mortgage ("Avenue"). Lacy represented that both he and Avenue were licensed to operate as mortgage brokers in New York.
- (19) Lacy told Tomlinson that he was aware of the urgency of the need for refinancing and that Tomlinson's credit rating was allegedly "poor". Lacy then, in the presence of Dodson, proposed that the Crown St. residence be "sold" to a "temporary" buyer/ holder who could obtain refinancing and who would enter into a 1 year lease and buy back agreement with Tomlinson during which time Tomlinson could "improve" his credit rating and thus buy back the residence.
- (20) Both Lacy and Dodson represented to Tomlinson that he had no alternative but to accept the scheme set forth in paragraph "(18)" herein to avoid foreclosure under the then existing mortgage.
- (21) At this same meeting with Lacy and Dodson, Tomlinson was introduced to Defendant, Cherry Ann Degannes ("Degannes"), who was described as the person willing to buy, hold and lease, with a purchase option in favor of Tomlinson, the Crown St. residence as described in paragraph "(18)" herein.
- (22) As the result of the various false and untrue representations made in paragraphs "(11)", "(16)", "(17)", "(18)" and "(19)", Tomlinson decided to accept the scheme and, on November 7, 2006 entered into a "sale", "lease" and "buy back" agreement with Degannes.
- (23) That Dodson, Lacy and Degannes told Tomlinson that he had no need for legal counsel for the "sale", "lease" and "buy back" agreement and that they and/or counsel, Daniel Chan, for the refinancing bank, BNC Mortgage Inc. ("BNC") would attend to all the necessary paperwork.
- (24) That, upon information and belief, BNC has been accused of fraud in connection with its work in arranging for and providing mortgage loans and, as a consequence, may now no longer be in business.
- (25) That, upon information and belief, Degannes was paid approximately \$93,000 for her participation in the scheme. These funds were given to her at the "closing" which took

- place on November &, 2006 and were funds obtained from Tomlinson without his knowledge or consent that they were to be paid to Degannes for her participation in the purchase, lease and buy back scheme. It is not yet known whether Degannes shared any of these funds with any of the other Defendants.
- (26) That, on November 7, 2006 a "closing" was held on Long Island, New York where Tomlinson, Degannes, Dodson, Lacy and Chan were present.
- (27) That, at the aforementioned "closing" various documents were drawn up and they and others were presented to Tomlinson, Degannes and Chan for signature. These documents included, among others, a hand written work sheet, a schedule of settlement charges, a HUD uniform settlement statement, a deed, mortgage documents and a lease with purchase option.
- (28) That the "sale" agreement listed a sales price of \$660,000 despite the fact that the Crown St. premises, on November 6, premises and money. That such representations were deliberately and intentionally made knowing they were false at the time they were made by Degannes, Dodson and Lacy, in the furtherance of the business of Encore, Avenue and BNC in order to induce Tomlinson to part with the Crown St. residence and his money.
- (29) That Tomlinson relied upon the false statements and representations, as alleged herein, so made by the Defendants and believed them to be true and as a result was induced to enter into the contract of sale and lease with purchase option as set forth herein and therefore lost both money and ownership of the Crown St. residence.
- (30) That on October 2, 2007 a "NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND RIGHT TO CURE" was allegedly sent to Degannes regarding her alleged failure to make payments on her existing mortgage on the Crown St. property. This notice, a copy of which was sent to Degannes at the Crown St. address, indicated that Degannes' monthly payments of \$5,782.83 had not been made for the months of August and September, 2007 and that there existed a "TOTAL DEFAULT" of \$17,568.95. The default letter was sent to Degannes by Defendant, Chase Home Finance LLC ("Chase"). Additionally, the letter threatened an acceleration of the entire mortgage balance. Tomlinson advised Lacy of this letter.
- (31) That, by reason of the "NOTICE" set forth in paragraph "(35)" herein, Chase must now be the holder of the Degannes

- mortgage and is therefore a necessary party to this action.
- (32) That, while eight months of "rent" had been deducted in advance at the "closing", Tomlinson, due to the excessive 2006, had a fair market value in considerable excess of that amount.
- (33) That Tomlinson was assessed, among other charges, \$13,990 as a "brokerage" fee by Avenue and/or Encore, "title" charges to "TERRA" or "TBRRA" of \$33,144, "legal" fees to "Nglen & Associates" of \$2,000 and other sundry charges including alleged work done by either Mel Harris, Esq. or Mel and Harris, Esqs. totaling \$9,061.29 and a payment of \$9,975 to one, Eliss Harrison for alleged services unknown. Deganees was paid, according to the "closing" work sheet \$93,000.
- (34) That despite the fact that Tornlinson was to be paid \$192,000 at the closing, he was only paid \$32,000.
- (35) That Tomlinson's father later complained to Dodson of the non payment to his son and was told that as the result of "mistakes" made at the closing, another check for \$11,000 would be sent.
- (36) That the "Lease with Purchase Option" entered into with Degannes included rental charges of \$6,000 per month by Tomlinson, far in excess of what was reasonable, that eight month's rent was deducted, in advance, at the closing and the "lease" contained no provision regarding any buy back price or any method to determine the buy back price.
- (37) That all of the various representations as set forth in para"(11)", "(16)", "(17)", "(18)", "(19)"and "(20)" were false and known by the Defendants to be false when made and were made with the intent to defraud Tomlinson of his Crown St. amount of the "rent", has not paid any "rent' since July, 2007 to Degannes.
- (38) That the property delivered to Degannes had, at the time, a fair market value of at least \$800,000 and, in addition Tomfinson paid and was defrauded of eight months "rent" totaling \$48,000 and "closing" charges, as best as can currently be assessed, of at least \$ 218,196.42 made up of the following:

BNC (escrow interest)	\$ 364.14
"DC" (attorney fee)	\$1,250.00
Avenue (broker fee)	\$13,990.00
Michelle Paulette (deed preparation)	\$ 200.00
DC Appraisals	\$ 550.00
"TERRA" "B's title"	\$17,324.00
"TERRA" "S's title"	\$17,820.00

Karen Mainella (title closer pickup)	\$500.00
*Fremont Investment & Loan	
*Wilshire Credit Corp	
NYC Dept. of Tax & Finance	
NYC Water Board	,
Roger Frances (survey)	
Mary Ann Degannes (certified check)	
"Nglen & Assoc." ("legal fees" certified check)	
Mel & Harris, Esq. ( certified check)	
Eliss Harrison	
Eliss Harrison	
GMAC Insurance	
Child support	
Christopher Hall (three checks) total	
Traiers Discount Center LLC	
density and the of spicking marked as	•

denotes payoffs of existing mortages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Tomlinson, demands judgment against all Defendants, joint and several, in the amount of \$406,196.42, as best as said amount can now be determined, together with legal fees, interest from November 7, 2006, costs and disbursements and for such other and further relief that this Court deems just and proper.

### ALTERNATIVELY, AS AND FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS

- (39) Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs "(1)" through "(38)" as if fully set forth herein.
- (40) That the false and untrue representations, which were unknown to Tomlinson when they were made, were made by the Defendants and their agents in a careless and negligent manner.
- (41) Because of the carelessness and negligence of the Defendants, their agents and/or employees as alleged in paragraph "(40)" herein, and without any carelessness or contributory negligence on the part of Plaintiff, Tomlinson, Tomlinson was damaged, as best as can now be determined, in the amount of \$406,196.42.
  - WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Tomlinson, demands judgment against all Defendants, joint and several, in the amount of \$406,196.42, as best as that amount can now be determined, together with

legal fees, interest from November 7, 2006, costs and disbursements and for such other and further relief that this Court deems just and proper.

## ALTERNATIVELY, AS AND FOR A THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS

- (42) Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation Contained in paragraphs "(1)' through "(38)" as if fully set forth herein.
- (43) That the false and untrue representations, which were unknown to Tomlinson to be false and untrue when they were made, were made by the Defendants and their agents in a grossly negligent manner.
- (44) Because of the gross negligence of the Defendants, their Agents and/or their employees as alleged in paragraph "(43)" herein, and without any carelessness or contributory negligence on the part of the Plaintiff, Tomlinson, Tomlinson was damaged, as best as can now be determined, in the amount of \$406,196.42.
  - WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Tomlinson, demands judgment against all Defendants, joint and several, in the amount of \$406,196.42, as best as now can be determined, together with legal fees, interest from November 7, 2006, costs and disbursements and for such other and further relief that this Court may deem just and proper.

# AS AND FOR A FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS

- (45) Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs "(1)" through "(38)" and paragraphs "(43)" and "(44)" as if fully set forth herein.
- (46) That due to the fraudulent and/or grossly negligent acts and omissions and Defendants obvious dealings with the public, Plaintiff is entitled to exemplary and/or punitive damages.
  - WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Tomlinson, demands exemplary and punitive be given Pitintiff against all the Defendants, jointly and severally, as this Court deems just and proper.

AS AND FOR A FLETH CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST DEFENDANT, DEGANNES

- (47) Plaintiff repeates and realieges each and every allegation Contained in paragraphs "(1)" through "(38)" and paragraphs "(43)" and "(44)" as if fully set forth herein.
- (48) That Degannes fully and knowingly participated in the fraud perpetrated on Tomlinson which caused said Tomlinson at least \$406,196.42 in damages and the ownership of the Crown St. residence.
- (49) That, as a consequence of the fraud as set forth herein and Degannes participation in the same, Tomlinson was wrongfully and fraudulentry induced into entering into the "sale" and "purchase option" of November 6, 2006.
- (50) That the sale and purchase option should be rescinded and cancelled in the interests or justice since it has no valid consideration and was entared into by reason of untrue and fraudulent misrepresentations made by and on Degannes' behalf to induce Tomber to enter into the sale and purchase agreement of November 5, 2006 and which were relied on by Tomlinson who believes mean to be true.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Tourishippon, asks that the sale and purchase option agreement of November 6, 2006 be rescinded and/or conserved, for legal feed, costs and disbursements and seem period and further relief that this Court deems just and proven

Dated: October 26, 2007

Cone & Kilbourn

John E. Cone Jr.
Accurneys for Plaintiff

SO S. Bedford Rd.

Mount Kisco, N.Y. 10549 Tel.: 914 481 6249

Fax: 514 461 3228

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK	
COUNTY OF KINGS	χ

Howard W. Tomlinson

Plaintiff,

VERIFICATION
Index: 41418/07

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Cherry Ann Degannes, David Dodson, Encore Capital Services, Inc., Jeffery Lacy, Avenue Mortgage, BNC Mortgage Inc. and Chase Home Finance LLC

Defendant(s)

HOWARD W. TOMLINSON, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- 1. That he is the Plaintiff herein and has read the foregoing Amended Verified Conglaint and knows the contents thereof.
- 2. That the same is true to his own knowledge and belief except matters therein stated to be alleged on information and belief, and to those matter he believes them to be true.

HOWARD W. TOMLINSON

Sworn to before me this 5th day of Decembe, 2007

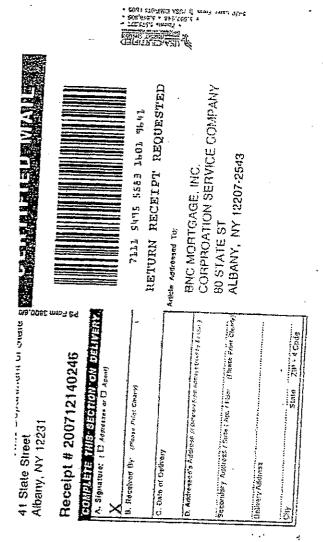
Notary Public

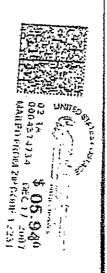
ANTOINETTE M. 5/470311 Notary Public, Sorr of New York No. 4325000

Qualified in Woster. 11. 30/b Commission Expires May 11. 18.20/b

ALBANY, NY 12231-0001

CORPROATION SERVICE COMPANY 80 STATE ST ALBANY, NY 12207-2543





FROM: BNC MORTGAGE, INC., A DELAWARE CORPORATION 510 BROAD HOLLOW RD.

MELVILLE, NY 11747 ATTN: FUNDING DEPT. PHONE #: (631) 420-5101

PAX #: (631) 753-2388 TO: DANIEL CHAN

TO: FIRST AMERICAN TITLE

104 W MAIN ST PATCHOGUE, NY 11772

ATTN:

ATTN:

RE: BORROWERS CHERRY-ANN DEGANNES

Dicament Date: 11/07/2006

Closing Date: 11/07/2006

Doe's Expiration Date: 11/10/2006

Loan No.: MEL014500

Application No.: MEL014500

Title Order No.: TA 9952 K 06

Escrow No.:

Property Address: 694 CROWN ST BROOKLYN, NY 11213

#### GENERAL CLOSING INSTRUCTIONS

Do not close or fund this loan unless ALL conditions in these closing instructions and any supplemental closing instructions have been satisfied. The total consideration in this transaction except for our loan proceeds and approved secondary financing must pass to you in the form of cash. All proceeds must be discursed upon closing unless you have received specific written subtorization to the contrary from us. Do not close or final this loan if you have knowledge of a concurrent or subsequent transaction which would transfer the subject property.

You must follow these instructions exactly. These closing instructions can only be modified with our advance written approval. You shall be deemed to have accepted and to be bound by these closing instructions if you full to notify us in writing to the contrary within 48 hours of your receipt hereof or if you disburse any funds to or for the account of the Borrower(s).

All documents with the exception of those to be recorded (Security Instrument, Riders, Corporation Assignment(s), Grant Deed, Quit Claim, Power of Attorney, etc.) must be retained to our office within 24 hours of the signing. Please return certified copies of those documents that are to be recorded. Failure to comply with these instructions may delay funding.

#### EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS:

- Each Borrower must sign all documents exactly as his or her name appears on the blank line provided for his or her signature. All signatures must be executed by a person authorized to take acknowledgments in the state of closing.
- Any correction to loan documents must be approved in writing by us in advance of closing. No white-out is permitted. Approved deletion should be made by marking a single line through the language being deleted. All additions and deletions must be initialed by all borrowers.
- Specific Powers of Attorney must be provided to and approved by us in advance. If approved, the Specific Power of Attorney must be recorded in the same county in which the Security Instrument is recorded and a certified copy provided to us. The Attorney-in-Fact must sign as follows: Borrower's Name by Attorney-in-Fact's Name as his/her Attorney-in-Fact (example: Jane Smith by John Smith her Anomey-in-Fact). General Powers of Attorney are not acceptable.

#### CHANGES TO FEES & CHARGES:

Do not make any changes to any fees paid to any party or add any additional fees or charges without the express written approval
of BNC MORTGAGE, INC.

### RESCISSION:

- 1. If the transportion is subject to restrission, provide each Borrower and each person having any ownership interest in the security property with two (2) copies of the complexed Notice of Right to Cancel. The Notice of Right to Cancel must be properly completed (including all dates) and each borrower and person given a Notice of Right to Cancel must execute an anknowledgment of receipt. The restrission period must take into account the federally prescribed restrission period and any state prescribed restrission period. Your failure to properly complete and provide the Notices of Right to Cancel to each person entitled to receive them will delay this closing entitled to receive them will delay this closing.
- 2. No Borrower or other person having an ownership interest in the Security Property may medify or waive his or her right to rescind without our prior written consent.
- If any Borrower or other person having an ownership interest in the accurrity property indicates that he or she wishes to cancel
  this transaction, contact us immediately for further instructions.

- A valid survey dated within 90 days of closing is required in areas where surveys are customary.
- The survey must contain all relevant and customary information and certifications and the legal description, lot size and street must agree with the property appraisal and closing documents.

### HAZARD INSURANCE:

- The Borrower(s) must provide satisfactory evidence of hazard insurance coverage and flood insurance coverage if the property is located in a Special Flood Hazard Area as designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- Dwelling coverage must be equal to the lesser of the lum amount or the full replacement value of the property improvements, and must extend for either a term of at least one (1) year after the closing date for purchase transactions or three (3) months after the first payment date for remance transactions.
- 3. Loss payer/mortgages clause to read: CHASE HOME FINANCE LLC, ITS SUCCESSORS AND/OR ASSIGNS, ATIMA

P.O. BOX 81507, ATLANTA, GA 30366

Loan Number, MEL014500 ACKNOSYTENCED AND LEBERT.

Title Officer

MEL014500

CENERAL CLOSING INSTRUCTIONS

Settlement Agent

ATTN: FUNDING DEPT.	101	Document Date: 11/07/2006
PHONE #: (631) 420-5101 FAX #: (631) 753-2388		Closing Date: 11/07/2906
TO: DANIEL CHAN	TO: PIRST AMERICAN TITLE	Doc's Expiration Date: 11/10/2006
PATCHOGUE, NY 11772		Loan No.: MEL014500
ATTN:	TN: ATTN:	
RE: CHERRY-ANN DEGARNES		Title Order No.: TA 9952 K 06
Property Address: 694 CROWN BROOKLYN, NY 11213	YST	Escrow No.:
T A LNI DOCTIMUNOS	SPECIFIC CLOSING INSTRUCTI	ONS
LOAN DOCUMENTS We enclose the following documents	accessary to complete the above referen	ced loan transaction:
(X) Note	/ ) Andreimine Wiles	) Rescission
(X) Doed/Mongage	( ) Second Home Rider (X	) Adj. Rate Rider
(X) Truth In Lending Disclosure	(X) Regulation Z (X	) Important Application Information
(X) Payment Letter	(X) Prepay Waiver Rider	(VMP Form 128)
(X) Hazard Requirements (X) 1 - 4 Family Rider	(X) Assignment of Deed (X) (X) Good Faith Est.	Customer Identification Form
Deliver one (1) copy of all loan of Disclosure Statement to each Borrov Genoral Closing Instructions for distri	ocuments to the Bostower(s); deliver of wer and each person having any owners foution of the Notices of Right to Cancel	one (1) copy of the Federal Truth-In-Lending ship interest in the security property. (Refer to .)
Loan Terms:	No. 43 - 20 1	
Loan Amount: \$460,000.00	Monthly P&I:	·
Sales Price: 660,000.00 Term (Months): 600		:Date: 12/01/2006 Date: 11/01/2036
Interest Rate: 9.950		nto-Loan: (X) Yes ( )No
Secondary Financing in the amount of	f: 3 has been appro	ved
CONDITIONS:		
Prior to funding/plasing you will be t	na probressing your la problem in heiling on	oditious. All conditions must be satisfied prior
to disbursement of the loan proceeds.	mouthoom without or any documents an	
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TEM	AMO	דאט(	POC		PAID TO
ORIGINATION FEE	\$	899.00		To	LENDER
Broker Fee	\$	13,200.00		To	BROKER
Processing Fee	\$	495.00		To	BROKER
APPLICATION FEE	2	295.00		To	BROKER
Appraisal Fee	\$	550.00			DERON MACKINNEY
Tex Service Fee	\$	69.00			
FLOOD CERTIFICATION	\$	17.00		To	first american flood data
NY Mortgage Tax	\$	-1,650.00		To	NEW YORK STATE

Note:

or .					
Flood Certification fee paid l	y lander. Tax Co	rtification Fe	e paid by len	der.	
		Subtotal -	of Estimated F	ees and Costs:	\$13.875.00
PER DIEM INTEREST: From: 11/07/2006 (Anticipated Closing Date)	To: 11/91/2006				
-6 days at 182.4	2 per da	y. Subtotal c	of Per Diem Int	erest-	S-1,094.52
IMPOUNDS/ESCROWS: Impounds/escrow funds will be de	dusted from the an	ount wired.			
Elexand Insurance CTTY TAXES	1 month(s) at S month(s) at S month(s) at S 2 month(s) at S month(s) at S	208.50	per month = per month = per month = w Adjustment; sunds/Escrow; r Fee Paid by I S AND COSTS	\$\$ \$ 530.24 \$ \$ \$ -265.08 ender.	\$473.66 \$ \$-665.00 \$661,285.86
HUD-1 SETTLEMENT STATI The final HUD-1 Settlement Statishursements indicated in their changes to fees occur documen Statement to us at the followin CA 92623-6426; or fax to (866) ADDITIONAL INFORMATIO	atement must be essectoring instructions may need to be g address within 2 471-6067	ons and any am re-drawn and : 4 hours of sett	tended closing re-cioned, Sen	instructions (	mosequent nereto. 11 any I final HUD-I Settlement
Borrowers must sign and date the If for any reason this loan does and were all funds to:			oceipt of funds	, immediately	rotum all documents to us
Lehman Brothers, FSB, AB	A 231170136, B N	C Mortgage Ch	earing Acct. 12	4700002610	
The wire of all funds should not Dentsche Bank is the intended th	be later than 12:00 ird party beneficiar	noon, New Yor y of this agreem	k time, on the	požíneza guž s	after the scheduled closing.
All documents with the exception Deed, Quit Claim, Power of Att certified copies of those documents.  Settlement Agent	oney, etc.) must be not that are to be rec	e remined to o	y instrument, R ur office withi	tiders, Corpor n 24 hours of	ation Assignment(s), Grant this signing. Please return
SPECIFIC CLOSING INSTRUCTION	is	Page 2 of	3		MEL914500
Bed5765 89/18/2006 845					arana da Taray

# 08-13555-mg Doc 3237 Filed 03/23/09 Entered 03/30/09 17:17:25 Main Document Pg 37 of 73

PAYOFF REQUIREMENTS:

It is a condition to the funding of this learn that the debts listed on the CONDITIONAL LOAN APPROVAL be paid. Indicate payoffs on the HUD-1 Settlement Statement or provide other satisfactory evidence of payoff.

debts or liens required to be paid through escrow

\*Estimated Payoff Amount:

MDEL014500

TOTAL

\$0.00

All liens of record must be paid in accordance w If you have any questions regarding any of these BORROWER ACKNOWLEDGMENT: I/We	instructions, ple	ase contact the Funding Department at (949) 2	
BORROWER RELITION THE BOUNDARY.	/		
BOTTOWET CHERRY-ANN DEGANNES	Date	OG Bostower	'Date
	Date	Borrower	Date
Borrower	22.0	20.0.2	
Вопочег	Date	Bottower	Date
ACKNOWLEDGED AND AGREED: Settlement Agent	11/4/06 Date	Title Officer	1(17/0) Date
SPECIFIC CLOSING INSTRUCTIONS	Page 3	of3	

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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK **COUNTY OF KINGS: IAS PART 38** HOWARD W. TOMLINSON. Index No. 41418/07 Plaintiff, Justice Martin M. Solomon -against-CHERRY ANN DEGANNES, DAVID DODSON. THIRD-PARTY SUMMONS ENCORE CAPITAL SERVICES, INC., JEFFERY LACY, AVENUE MORTGAGE, INC., BNC MORTGAGE INC., and CHASE FINANCE LLC, Χ. Defendants. Third-Party Index No. BNC MORTGAGE, INC., 75770/08 Date Purchased: 9/5/08 Third-Party Plaintiff, -against-DANIEL CHAN, ESQ., Third-Party Defendant.  $\mathbf{X}$ 

#### TO THE ABOVE NAMED THIRD-PARTY DEFENDANT:

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon the third-party plaintiff's attorney an answer to the annexed Third Party Complaint of the third-party plaintiff, which is herewith served upon you together with all prior pleadings in the action, within twenty days after the service thereof, exclusive of the day of service, or within thirty days after service is complete if service is made by any method other than personal delivery to you within the State of New York.

In case of your failure to answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Third-Party Complaint.

Dated: September , 2008 New York, New York

STATE COMMIS STEROSS P.C.

Jeffred A Greenbaum, Esq.

One Rockefeller Plaza New York, New York 10020 (212) 643-7000

Attorneys for Defendants/Third Party Plaintiff BNC Mortgage, Inc.

TO: Daniel Chan, Esq. 104 W. Main St. Patchogue, New York 11772

COUNTY OF KINGS	
HOWARD W. TOMLINSON,	-x : Index No. 41418/07
Plaintiff, v.  CHERRY ANN DEGANNES, DAVID DODSON, ENCORE CAPITAL SERVICES, INC., JEFFERY LACY, AVENUE MORTGAGE, INC., BNC MORTGAGE INC., and CHASE FINANCE LLC,	<ul> <li>VERIFIED ANSWER,</li> <li>AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES,</li> <li>CROSS-CLAIMS,</li> <li>COUNTERCLAIMS AND</li> <li>THIRD-PARTY COMPLAINT</li> <li>OF DEFENDANT BNC</li> <li>MORTGAGE, INC.</li> </ul>
Defendants.	<b>:</b> :
BNC MORTGAGE, INC.,  Third-Party Plaintiff,  v.	x : : Third-Party Index No. 75770/08 :
DANIEL CHAN, ESQ.,	•
Third-Party Defendant.	: : x

Defendant BNC Mortgage, Inc. ("BNC"), by and through its attorneys, Sills Cummis & Gross P.C. and Hofheimer Gartlir & Gross, LLP, and as and for its verified answer to the verified amended complaint of plaintiff Howard W. Tomlinson ("Plaintiff" or "Tomlinson") in the above-captioned matter, hereby:

- 1. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8.
- 2. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph 7, except admits that BNC had offices located at 510 Melville Road, in Melville, New York.

## AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL OF THE DEFENDANTS

3. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations set forth in paragraphs 9 through 22.

- 4. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations set forth in paragraph 23, except to deny that Daniel Chan was "counsel" for BNC.
  - 5. Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph 24.
- 6. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations set forth in paragraphs 25 through 27.
- 7. Lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations set forth in paragraph 28, except deny the allegations as to BNC contained therein.
- 8. Lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations set forth in paragraph 29.
- 9. Lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations set forth in paragraph 30, except to admit that the Degannes loan is in default.
  - Denies the allegations set forth in paragraph 31.
- 11. Lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations set forth in paragraphs 32-38.

## AS AND FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL OF THE DEFENDANTS

12. Repeats the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein, and denies the allegations set forth in paragraphs 40 through 41.

## AS AND FOR A THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL OF THE DEFENDANTS

13. Repeats the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein, and denies the allegations set forth in paragraphs 42 through 44.

# AS AND FOR A FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL OF THE DEFENDANTS

14. Repeats the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein, and denies the allegations set forth in paragraph 46.

## AS AND FOR A FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST DEFENDANT DEGANNES

- 15. Repeats the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.
- 16. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations in paragraph 48.
  - 17. Denies the allegations paragraphs 49 and 50.

## FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The Complaint fails to state a claim on which relief may be granted.

## SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred, in whole or in part, by the doctrines of laches, waiver, and estoppel.

### THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred, in whole or in part, by reason of his misconduct and/or unclean hands.

## FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred, in whole or in part, by Plaintiff's failure to mitigate his alleged damages.

### FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred, in whole or in part, because BNC holds a valid, perfected, and enforceable security interest in the property.

#### SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred, in whole or in part, because BNC can establish its entitlement to an equitable mortgage for the full amount of the proceeds of the loan at issue, including sums paid to discharge prior mortgages, liens, and other obligations of Tomlinson.

## SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff lacks standing to assert any claims against BNC.

#### EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred, in whole or in part, because he waived the right to claim damages by his acts and omissions.

#### **NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Plaintiff's claims are barred, in whole or in part, because he failed to exercise ordinary care.

#### TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred, in whole or in part, because he ratified the alleged wrongful conduct for which he now seeks recovery.

## ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

To the extent Plaintiff seeks punitive or exemplary damages against BNC, his claims are barred, in whole or in part, by the procedural and substantive due process clauses of the United States Constitution and/or the Constitution of the State of New York.

### TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred, in whole or in part, because any harm he suffered is the result of his own contributory negligence.

## THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred, in whole or in part, by the applicable provisions of the Uniform Commercial Code.

### FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred by the doctrine of Quantum Meruit.

## FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred by the doctrine of unjust enrichment.

### SIXTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

BNC acted at all times in good faith and within reasonable commercial standards.

## SEVENTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Any injuries sustained by Plaintiff were the result of conduct by others over whom BNC has no control.

### EIGHTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

BNC was not the proximate cause of any damage or injury sustained by Plaintiff.

### NINETEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

BNC is not guilty of negligence, or of violating any known duty to Plaintiff.

## TWENTIETH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred by the Doctrine of Election of Remedies.

## TWENTY-FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiff has failed to plead claims of fraud with the required particularity.

#### RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

BNC expressly reserves the right to amend and/or supplement its answer and affirmative defenses as needed as discovery proceeds.

## BNC'S COUNTERCLAIMS, CROSS-CLAIMS, and THIRD-PARTY COMPLAINT

Defendant-Cross-Claimant/Counterclaimant/Third-party Plaintiff BNC Mortgage, Inc. ("BNC") by its attorneys, Sills Cummis & Gross P.C. and Hofheimer Gartlir & Gross, LLP, as its cross-claims against the other defendants, counterclaims against Plaintiff Howard Tomlinson ("Tomlinson"), and third-party complaint against Third-party Defendant Daniel Chan, Esq., hereby alleges as follows:

- 1. This proceeding is an action arising from a fraudulent "foreclosure rescue" scheme, in which a number of participants conspired, as part of a scheme to take money from BNC under false pretenses by making fraudulent statements and submitting fraudulent documents, in order to fraudulently obtain a mortgage loan in connection with the sale of Tomlinson's property to Defendant Cherry Ann Degannes.
- 2. Upon information and belief, on or around October 18, 2006, Degannes entered into a contract with Tomlinson to purchase real estate located at 694 Crown Street, Brooklyn, New York 11213 ("the Property") for the price of \$660,000.
- 3. Between approximately September of 2006 and early November of 2006, defendants David Dodson, Encore Capital Services, Inc. ("Encore") Jeffrey Lacy, and Avenue Mortgage ("Avenue"), acting in the capacity of mortgage brokers, submitted a loan application or applications ("the Application") to BNC on behalf of Degannes.
- 4. The Application contained false and incomplete information and fraudulent representations as to material facts. In the course of BNC's approval process, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, and Avenue caused the fraudulent and incomplete information and representations to be submitted to BNC.

5. Third-party defendant Chan, holding himself out as an eligible attorney, represented to BNC that he would act as the closing attorney in connection with the Tomlinson/Degannes transaction, and specifically in connection with a purchase money mortgage obtained by Degannes from BNC. In his capacity as the closing attorney, Chan received settlement and closing instructions from BNC, which Chan was to follow in closing the loan.

PURSUANT TO CPLR § 3011 DEFENDANT BNC MORTGAGE INC. DEMANDS ANSWERS TO ITS CROSS-CLAIMS.

#### FIRST CROSS-CLAIM

#### FIRST COUNTERCLAIM

#### Fraud and Conspiracy to Commit Fraud

(Against Defendants David Dodson, Encore Capital Services, Inc., Jeffrey Lacy, Avenue Mortgage, and Cherry Ann Degannes and Plaintiff Tomlinson)

- 6. BNC repeats and realleges the allegations of the foregoing Cross-Claim and Counterclaim Paragraphs 1 through 5 as if fully set forth herein.
- 7. Between approximately September of 2006 and early November of 2006, defendants David Dodson, Encore Capital Services, Inc. ("Encore") Jeffrey Lacy, and Avenue Mortgage ("Avenue"), acting in the capacity of mortgage brokers, submitted a loan application or applications ("the Application") to BNC on behalf of Degannes.
- 8. Degannes, through and in collaboration with Dodson and Lacy, knowingly made false representations on the Application with respect to material facts, including, but not limited to, her income and her intent to occupy the property and to use it as her primary residence.

- 9. The Application, which contained information known by the defendants to be false, was submitted for a fraudulent transaction that, unbeknownst to BNC, was part and in furtherance of a "foreclosure rescue" scheme, in which Tomlinson, Degannes, Dodson, Lacy, Encore, and Avenue were participants. The Application sought a mortgage loan in the amount of \$660,000.
- 10. The Application submitted to BNC by Dodson, Encore, Lacy, and Avenue, acting in the capacity of mortgage brokers for Degannes, included fraudulent and incomplete information about the purchase transaction that failed to explain the true nature of the foreclosure rescue scheme.
- 11. During the underwriting portion of the loan application process, Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, and Avenue submitted, and caused to be submitted, fraudulent and incomplete information regarding the Tomlinson/Degannes transaction that failed to include the following information, upon information and belief: (a) that Tomlinson would remain in possession of the property, and rent it back from Degannes; (b) that Degannes was a straw buyer who did not desire to permanently purchase Tomlinson's property or reside at the property; (c) that various parties who were part of the foreclosure rescue scheme, including Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, and Avenue, would receive a significant part of the loan proceeds, with a small portion going to Tomlinson.
- 12. Dodson, Encore, Lacy, and Avenue, along with third-party defendant Daniel Chan, submitted a fraudulent "draft" HUD-1 form to BNC that failed to show the intended disbursements to the participants in the foreclosure rescue scheme, including Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, and Avenue.

- 13. Upon information and belief, Defendants Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, Avenue, and Plaintiff Tomlinson arranged for the unauthorized disbursement, by third-party defendant Chan, of funds from the loan proceeds to the participants in the foreclosure rescue scheme, including Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, and Avenue.
- 14. Defendants Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, Avenue, and Plaintiff Tomlinson have committed fraud against BNC in connection with the purchase of the Property.
- 15. Defendants Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, Avenue, and Plaintiff Tomlinson intentionally made material misrepresentations concerning the real estate transaction and closing as referenced above.
- 16. Defendants Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, Avenue, and Plaintiff Tomlinson knew or should have known of the falsity of their statements.
- 17. Defendants Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, Avenue, and Plaintiff Tomlinson intended to deceive BNC through their material misrepresentations.
- 18. BNC expended substantial sums of money in reasonable reliance upon the defendants' material misrepresentations to its detriment.
- 19. As a result of the defendants' material misrepresentations, BNC has suffered, and will suffer, damages including but not limited to the loss on the Tomlinson/Degannes transaction from the difference in the mortgages loan amount and the potential sale price of the home, the cost and expense of defending itself against this action, which has resulted from the foreclosure rescue scheme, and the cost and expense of its efforts to recover all funds loaned on the transaction.

WHEREFORE, BNC demands judgment against Defendants Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, Avenue, and Plaintiff Tomlinson, jointly and severally, for the following relief:

- a. Compensatory and consequential damages in an amount to be determined;
- b. Punitive damages in an amount to be determined;
- c. Prejudgment interest;
- d. Attorney's fees and costs; and
- e. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

#### SECOND CROSS-CLAIM

#### Negligence

### (As to Defendants Encore and Avenue)

- 20. BNC repeats and realleges the allegations of the foregoing Cross-Claim and Counterclaim Paragraphs 1 through 19 as if fully set forth herein.
- 21. Defendants Encore and Avenue, in submitting the Degannes loan application and supporting financial, employment, and transaction documents and information to BNC, knew or should have known that BNC would rely on their representations, made within the scope of their representatives' (Dodson's and Lacy's) employment, in approving the loans and disbursing the mortgage loan proceeds.
- 22. Encore and Avenue, in employing Dodson and Lacy, knew or should have known that BNC would rely on the representations of Dodson and Lacy (and Encore and Avenue's other representatives) made within the scope of their employment with Encore and Avenue, in approving the loans and disbursing the mortgage loan proceeds.

- 23. Encore and Avenue, through their employees, negligently or intentionally breached their duty to BNC Mortgage by providing misleading and false information concerning the loan application and the Tomlinson/Degannes transaction to BNC.
- 24. Encore and Avenue negligently or intentionally breached their duty to BNC by failing to properly supervise their employees and by allowing their employees to provide, and because their employees did provide, misleading and false information concerning the loan application and the transaction to BNC.
- 25. BNC has been forseeably damaged by Encore and Avenue, and the negligent or intentional breaches, by Encore and Avenue, of their duty to BNC.

WHEREFORE, BNC demands judgment against Defendants Encore and Avenue, jointly and severally, for the following relief:

- a. Compensatory and consequential damages in an amount to be determined;
- b. Punitive damages in an amount to be determined;
- c. Prejudgment interest;
- d. Attorney's fees and costs; and
- e. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

#### THIRD CROSS-CLAIM

#### **Breach of Contract**

#### (As to Defendant Avenue)

26. BNC repeats and realleges the allegations of the foregoing Cross-Claim and Counterclaim Paragraphs 1 through 25 as if fully set forth herein.

- 27. On or around January 3, 2005, Avenue Mortgage executed a Broker Agreement ("Broker Agreement") with BNC Mortgage.
- 28. Pursuant to the Broker Agreement, Avenue agreed to certain representations and warranties to BNC regarding the loan applications that Avenue would submit to BNC.
- 29. Pursuant to Paragraph 3.4 of the Broker Agreement ("Control of Documents; Disclosure and Validity of Information"), Avenue warranted that "[it] has and shall make prompt, timely, full, accurate, and truthful disclosure to Lender of all facts, information, and documentation which Mortgage Broker may know, suspect, or have notice of, which could affect or has affected the validity, collectibility, collateral value, security, or enforceability of any Application Package submitted by Mortgage Broker for consideration by Lender," and that "[a]ll information on applications prepared by Mortgage Broker for submission to Lender with regard to Application Packages, including all written attachments thereto, is and shall be true, correct, currently valid, and genuine."
- 30. Under Paragraph 3.7, Avenue represented and warranted that: "[t]here is no agreement between Mortgage Broker and any other person or entity for the payment of any referral fee, rebate, bonus, kickback or other payment and no payment of such referral fee, rebate, bonus, kickback or other payment has been or will be made."
- 31. Avenue, through its employees, upon information and belief breached these provisions of the Broker Agreement by, among other things, as described in the foregoing Paragraphs causing to be submitted, fraudulent and incomplete information regarding the Tomlinson/Degannes transaction in the loan application package and during the origination

process for such transaction and participating in the disbursement of loan proceeds to other defendants in violation of BNC's closing instructions.

32. BNC has been damaged by Defendant Avenue's breaches of the Broker Agreement.

WHEREFORE, BNC demands judgment against Defendant Avenue for the following relief:

- a. Compensatory and consequential damages in an amount to be determined;
- b. Punitive damages in an amount to be determined;
- c. Prejudgment interest;
- d. Attorney's fees and costs; and
- e. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

#### FOURTH CROSS-CLAIM

#### SECOND COUNTERCLAIM

#### Conversion

(As to Defendants Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, Avenue, and Plaintiff Tomlinson)

- 33. BNC repeats and realleges the allegations of the foregoing Cross-Claim and Counterclaim Paragraphs 1 through 32 as if fully set forth herein.
- 34. Defendants Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, Avenue, and Plaintiff Tomlinson, by engaging in the acts described above, have willfully deprived BNC of its property or have aided or assisted others in doing so, and have wrongfully converted its funds into real property and personalty which they have no right to retain.
- 35. As a result of such actions, BNC has suffered damages for which Defendants Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, Avenue, and Plaintiff Tomlinson are jointly and severally liable.

WHEREFORE, BNC demands judgment against Defendants Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, Avenue, and Plaintiff Tomlinson, jointly and severally, for the following relief:

- a. Compensatory and consequential damages in an amount to be determined;
- b. Punitive damages in an amount to be determined;
- c. Prejudgment interest;
- d. Attorney's fees and costs; and
- e. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

## CROSS-CLAIMS FOR INDEMNIFICATION AND/OR CONTRIBUTION AGAINST DEFENDANTS DEGANNES, DODSON, ENCORE, LACY, AND AVENUE

While BNC denies any wrongdoing or liability with respect to the allegations and claims of the Complaint, and denies that Plaintiff Tomlinson is entitled to the relief sought therein, if Tomlinson recovers in this action, it will have been brought about solely by virtue of the primary, intentional and active recklessness, carelessness, negligence, wrongdoing, misrepresentation, fraud, and/or breach of contract by Defendants Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, and Avenue. As such, if BNC is found liable to Plaintiff Tomlinson, or if Tomlinson otherwise recovers against BNC in this action, then BNC demands that Defendants Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, and Avenue, as the parties solely responsible for any such loss or damages suffered by BNC, indemnify BNC for the full amount of any judgment entered against BNC. Furthermore, if BNC is found liable to Tomlinson, or if Tomlinson otherwise recovers against BNC in this action, then BNC claims its right to contribution from Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, and Avenue in accordance to the respective degrees of liability of Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, and Avenue as ascertained or determined at trial.

WHEREFORE, BNC demands (i) indemnification from Defendants Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, and Avenue for all relief and/or sums for which BNC may be adjudged liable in

the Action, and/or (ii) contribution against Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, and Avenue, together with costs and attorneys' fees in the full amount provided by law.

#### THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT

Third-party Plaintiff BNC Mortgage, Inc. ("BNC") by its attorneys, Sills Cummis & Gross P.C. and Hofheimer Gartlir & Gross, LLP, as its third-Party complaint against Third-party Defendant Daniel Chan, Esq., hereby allege as follows:

#### FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

#### Professional Negligence

- 36. BNC repeats and realleges the allegations contained in the foregoing Cross-Claim and Counterclaim Paragraphs 1 through 35 of the foregoing section.
- 37. Chan represented to BNC that he would act as the closing attorney in connection with the closing of title to the Property.
- 38. BNC sent settlement and closing instructions to Chan, which Chan was duty-bound to follow in closing the loan.
- 39. Chan submitted a fraudulent "draft" HUD-1 form to BNC that failed to show intended disbursements to the participants in the foreclosure rescue scheme (described in Paragraphs 1-34, above), including Degannes, Dodson, Avenue and Lacy.
- 40. On November 7, 2006, BNC wired \$660,000, to Chan's attorney trust account, to accomplish the purchase of the Property, in accordance with the contract for sale previously provided to BNC.
- 41. However, upon information and belief, Chan failed to disburse the loan proceeds in accordance with BNC's closing instructions and instead made undisclosed disbursements to the

participants in the foreclosure rescue scheme, including defendants Degannes, Dodson, Avenue, and Lacy.

- 42. Chan failed to immediately record the deed in favor of Degannes or the mortgage in favor of BNC with the Kings County Clerks Office, as required by BNC's instructions.
- 43. In carrying out the function of a closing attorney, Chan failed to follow BNC's settlement closing instructions and represented to BNC that a closing had occurred in accordance with the final HUD-1 submitted to BNC.
- 44. Chan, as the closing attorney for the Tomlinson/Degannes transaction, knew or should have known that BNC would rely on his representations, made in his professional capacity, in approving the loans and disbursing the mortgage loan proceeds.
- 45. Chan negligently or intentionally breached his duty to BNC by providing BNC with misleading and false information concerning the Tomlinson/Degannes transaction, by permitting the loan proceeds to be disbursed for improper purposes and contrary to the instructions of BNC, and by otherwise not following BNC's instructions.
- 46. Chan knew or should have known that BNC would rely on his representations, made in his professional capacity, in determining if the mortgage loan proceeds had been disbursed in accordance with BNC's instructions.
- 47. BNC has been damaged by Chan's negligent or intentional breaches of his duty to BNC.

WHEREFORE, BNC demands judgment against Third-party Defendant Chan for the following relief:

- a. Compensatory and consequential damages in an amount to be determined;
- b. Punitive damages in an amount to be determined;
- c. Prejudgment interest;
- d. Attorney's fees and costs; and
- e. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

#### SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

#### Breach of Fiduciary Duty

- 48. BNC repeats and realleges the allegations set forth in the foregoing Cross-Claim and Counterclaim Paragraphs 1 through 47 as if fully set forth herein.
- 49. Chan, as the closing attorney, had a fiduciary duty to BNC to disburse the loan proceeds only for proper purposes, and in accordance with BNC Mortgage's instructions.
- 50. Chan negligently or intentionally breached his duty to BNC by providing misleading and false information concerning the Tomlinson/Degannes transaction to BNC, by permitting the loan proceeds to be disbursed for improper purposes and contrary to the instructions of BNC, and by otherwise not following BNC's instructions.
- 51. Chan, as the attorney at the closing who signed certain closing documents, had a fiduciary duty to BNC to disburse the loan proceeds only for proper purposes, and in accordance with BNC's instructions.
- 52. BNC has been damaged by Chan's negligent or intentional breaches of his duty to BNC.

WHEREFORE, BNC demands judgment against Third-party Defendant Chan for the following relief:

a. Compensatory and consequential damages in an amount to be determined;

- b. Punitive damages in an amount to be determined;
- c. Prejudgment interest;
- d. Attorney's fees and costs; and
- e. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

#### THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

#### Conversion

- 53. BNC repeats and realleges the allegations set forth in the foregoing Cross-Claim and Counterclaim Paragraphs 1 through 52 as if fully set forth herein.
- 54. Chan, along with Defendants Degannes, Dodson, Encore, Lacy, Avenue, and Plaintiff Tomlinson, by engaging in the acts described above, has willfully deprived BNC of its property or has aided or assisted others in doing so, and has wrongfully converted funds into real property and personalty which he has no right to retain.
- 55. As a result of such actions, BNC has suffered damages for which Chan is jointly or severally liable.
- 56. Upon information and belief, Chan retained for his own payment certain of the funds wired into his trust account, which should have been disbursed and otherwise utilized solely in the purchase of the Property.

WHEREFORE, BNC demands judgment against Third-party Defendant Chan for the following relief:

- a. Compensatory and consequential damages in an amount to be determined;
- b. Punitive damages in an amount to be determined;
- c. Prejudgment interest;

- d. Attorney's fees and costs; and
- e. Such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: August 26, 2008 New York, New York

SILLS CUMMIS & GROSS P.C.
One Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112
(212) 643-7000
Attorneys for Defendant BNC Mortgage, Inc.

By:

JEFFREY J. GREENBAUM MARC D. YOUNGELSON

DAVID BIRCH, ESQ.
HOFHEIMER GARTLIR & GROSS LLP
530 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10013
(212) 818-9000
Attorneys for Defendant BNC Mortgage, Inc.

#### **VERIFICATION**

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)

:55:

COUNTY OF ORANGE)

LINDA DeNICOLA, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am a Senior Vice President, Quality Control of BNC Mortgage, Inc., a defendant, cross-claimant, counterclaimant, and third-party plaintiff in the within action. I have read the foregoing Verified Answer and the same is true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief based upon my review of the loan file related to the underlying transaction and the documents contained therein.

LINDA DeNICOLA

Sworn to before me this Day of August, 2008

Notary Public

CALIFORNIA ALL-PURPOSE ACKNOWLEDGMENT				
State of California  County of ORMGE  On Description Date  Date  Description D	SS.  A FERBAR  Name and Title of Officer (e.g., "Jans Doe, Notary Public")  E A C A .  Name(s) of Signer(s)			
	personally known to me			
A. FERRAR  Commission # 1639923  Notary Public - California  Orange County  My Comm. Expires Jan 21, 2010	to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.  WITNESS my hand and official seal.			
Place Nolary Seal Above	Signature of Notary Public A: FERRAR			
The state information below in not required by law	IONAL it may prove valuable to persons relying on the document reattachment of this form to another document.			
Description of Attached Document Title or Type of Document:				
Document Date:	Number of Pages:			
Signer(s) Other Than Named Above:				
Capacity(ies) Claimed by Signer(s)  Signer's Name:  Individual Corporate Officer — Title(s): Partner — Limited General Attorney in Fact Trustee Guardian or Conservator Other: Signer is Representing:	Signer's Name:  Individual Corporate Officer — Title(s): Partner — Limited General Attorney in Fact Trustee Guardian or Conservator Other: Signer Is Representing:			

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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEV COUNTY OF KINGS	•
HOWARD W. TOMLINSON,	Index# 41418/07
Plaintiff,	
-against-	VERIFIED ANSWER TO SECOND AMENDED VERIFIED COMPLAINT
CHERRY ANN DEGANNES, DAVID DODS ENCORE CAPITAL SERVICES, INC., JEFFE LACY, AVENUE MORTGAGE, INC., BNC MORTGAGE INC., and DANIEL CHAN, ESC	ON, ERY
Defendants.	· ·
BNC MORTGAGE, INC.,	·X
Third-Party Plaintiff,	
-against-	
DANIEL CHAN, ESQ.,	
Third-Party Defendant.	X
Defendant, DANIEL CHAN, ESQ., (he	reinafter "Defendant"), by his attorneys, Furman
Kornfeld & Brennan LLP, hereby responds to	Plaintiff's Second Amended Verified Complaint

## AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S ANSWER TO THE VERIFIED COMPLAINT

- 1. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraphs numbered "1", "2", "3", "4", "5", "6", and "7".
- 2. Admits the allegations set forth in paragraph "8" of the Plaintiff's Verified Complaint.

(hereinafter the "Verified Complaint") as follows:

## AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S ANSWER TO THE FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

- 3. Defendant repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every response as previously set forth to paragraphs numbered "1" through "8", inclusive, with the same force and effect as if fully set forth at length.
- 4. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "9".
- 5. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "10".
- 6. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "11".
- 7. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "12".
- 8. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "13".
- 9. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "14".
- 10. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "15".
- 11. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "16".
- 12. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "17".
- 13. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "18".
  - 14. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the

truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "19".

- 15. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "20".
- 16. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "21".
- 17. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "22".
- 18. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "23".
- 19. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "24".
- 20. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "25".
- 21. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "26".
- 22. Deny, in the form alleged, each and every allegation contained in the paragraph designated as "27" of the Verified Complaint, except admit that Defendant served as the Bank Attorney on behalf of BNC Mortgage, Inc., at the Closing held on November 7, 2006, and prepared and executed certain documents in connection therewith.
- 23. Deny, each and every allegation contained in the paragraph designated as "28" of the Verified Complaint.
- 24. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "29".
- 25. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "30".

- 26. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "31".
- 27. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "32".
- 28. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "33".
- 29. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "34".
- 30. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "35".
  - 31. Denies each and every allegation contained in the paragraph numbered "36".
- 32. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "37".

## AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S ANSWER TO THE SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

- 33. Defendant repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every response as previously set forth to paragraphs numbered "1" through "37", inclusive, with the same force and effect as if fully set forth at length.
- 34. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "38".
  - 35. Denies each and every allegation contained in the paragraph numbered "39".
  - 36. Denies each and every allegation contained in the paragraph numbered "40".

## AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S ANSWER TO THE THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

37. Defendant repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every response as previously set forth to paragraphs numbered "1" through "35", inclusive, with the same force and effect as if fully set forth at length.

- 38. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "41".
  - 39. Denies each and every allegation contained in the paragraph numbered "42".
  - 40. Denies each and every allegation contained in the paragraph numbered "43".

## AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S ANSWER TO THE FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- 41. Defendant repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every response as previously set forth to paragraphs numbered "1" through "43", inclusive, with the same force and effect as if fully set forth at length.
- 42. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "44".
  - 43. Denies each and every allegation contained in the paragraph numbered "45".

## AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S ANSWER TO THE FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- 44. Defendant repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every response as previously set forth to paragraphs numbered "1" through "45", inclusive, with the same force and effect as if fully set forth at length.
- 45. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "46".
- 46. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "47".
- 47. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "48".
- 48. Denies knowledge or information sufficient upon which to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph numbered "49".

### AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

49. Plaintiff's Verified Complaint fails to state a cause of action against the Defendant for which relief can be granted and should be dismissed.

### AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

50. No privity or attorney client relationship existed between Plaintiff and Defendant.

As such, Plaintiff's claims fail to state a cause of action upon which relief may be granted and should be dismissed.

### AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

51. Defendant exercised due care and diligence in all matters alleged in the Plaintiff's Verified Complaint.

## AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

52. Any damages sustained by the Plaintiff were not caused by any acts or omissions on the part of the Defendant, but were solely caused by the negligence and carelessness of the Plaintiff and that such conduct requires diminution of any award, verdict or judgment that Plaintiff may recover against the Defendant.

### AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

53. If any damages were sustained by the Plaintiff as alleged in the Plaintiff's Verified Complaint, which damages are expressly denied, all such damages have been caused and brought about in whole or in material part by the affirmative wrongdoing, negligence, want of care, assumption of risk, breach of contract, and other culpable conduct and/or comparative negligence of persons other than Defendant, without similar acts of Defendant contributing

thereto, and as a consequence thereof the Plaintiff's damages should be reduced by the proportion third persons other than Defendant's culpable conduct which caused the alleged damages.

## AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

54. Plaintiff failed to mitigate his alleged damages.

## AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

55. Defendant's actions were ratified by the Plaintiff.

## AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

56. In the event the Plaintiff recovers a verdict or judgment against Defendant, said verdict or judgment should be reduced pursuant to CPLR §4545 (c) by those amounts which have been or will, with reasonable certainty, replace or indemnify Plaintiff in whole or in part for any past or future claimed economic loss, from any collateral source, as would have occurred in the underlying action.

## AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

57. Plaintiff's Verified Complaint must be dismissed as Plaintiff cannot prove that "but for" Defendant's actions, Plaintiff would not have sustained real and ascertainable damages.

## AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

58. Defendant's alleged negligent acts/omissions were not the proximate cause of the Plaintiff's alleged damages.

## AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

59. Plaintiff cannot prove that it would have prevailed in any of the underlying actions related to the alleged breach of the underlying leasehold interest at issue.

## AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

60. Plaintiff's claims are barred by the doctrine(s) of waiver, estoppel, laches, and/or unclean hands.

## AS AND FOR DEFENDANT'S THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

61. Plaintiff has failed to join all necessary parties to this action.

## AS AND FOR THE DEFENDANT'S FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

62. Documentary evidence contradicts the factual allegations pled in the Plaintiff's Verified Complaint.

## AS AND FOR THE DEFENDANT'S FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

63. The Plaintiff's claims are barred by the applicable statute of limitations.

## AS AND FOR THE DEFENDANT'S SIXTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

64. Plaintiff's Verified Complaint fails to establish that the Defendant's conduct fell below the applicable standard of care.

## AS AND FOR THE DEFENDANT'S SEVENTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

65. The Plaintiff's alleged damages were caused, in whole or in part, by the acts or omissions of the Plaintiff.

WHEREFORE, the Answering Defendant, DANIEL CHAN, ESQ., respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment as follows:

- 1. Dismissing Plaintiff's Verified Complaint;
- 2. Granting to Defendant the costs, expenses, and disbursements resulting from this litigation, including attorneys' fees; and
- 3. Awarding such other and further relief as this Court deems just, necessary, and proper.

Dated: New York, New York November 25, 2008

FURMAN KORNFELD & BRENNAN LLP

By:

A. Michael Furman, Esq.

Attorneys for Defendant/Third-Party

Defendant

Daniel Chan

545 Fifth Avenue, Suite 401

New York, NY 10017

(212) 867-4100

(212) 867-4118

FKB File No.: 302.011

TO: SILLS CUMMIS & GROSS
Attorney for Defendant/Third-Party Plaintiff
BNC Mortgage, Inc.,
One Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112

LIPSKY, BRESKY & LOWE LLP Attorneys for Defendant Avenue Mortgage, Inc., 585 Stewart Avenue, Suite 440 Garden City, New York 11530

ANTHONY T. BELLATO, ESQ. Attorney for Defendant Cherry Ann Degannes 5476 Merrick Road Massapequa, New York 11758 HOFHEIMER, GARTLIR & GROSS Attorney for Defendant/Third-Party Plaintiff BNC Mortgage, Inc., 530 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10036

DAVID DODSON Defendant Pro Se 100 Garden City Plaza Garden City, NY 11530

ENCORE CAPITAL SERVICES, INC., Defendant Pro Se 100 Garden City Plaza Garden City, NY 11530

JEFFERY LACY Defendant Pro Se 57 Manorhaven Boulevard Port Washington, NY 11050

CONE & KILBOURN
Attorneys for Plaintiff
83 S. Bedford Road
Mount Kisco, New York 10549

## ATTORNEY VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEW YORK	)
COI DITTI OF SIPIII MOBIL	)
COUNTY OF NEW YORK	)

A. MICHAEL FURMAN, being duly sworn, states that he is associated with the firm of FURMAN KORNFELD & BRENNAN LLP, attorneys for the Defendant Daniel Chan, Esq., in this action and that the foregoing Answer is true to his knowledge, except as to those matters therein stated upon information and belief, and as to those matters he believes them to be true, that the grounds of his belief as to all matters not stated upon his knowledge are correspondences and other writings furnished by the Defendant and other documents maintained in the office of his attorneys; and that the reason why this verification is not made by the Defendant is that the Defendant resides in a county other than the county where his attorneys have their office.

Dated: New York, New York November 25, 2008

A. MICHAEL FURMAN

Sworn to before me this day of November 2008

OTARY PUBLIC

JENNIFER MACASAET
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 01MA6185823
Qualified in Richmond County
Commission Expires April 21, 2012